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CYNTHIA D. BANKS
Director

**COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES
OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

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"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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December 24, 2008

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Cynthia D. Banks, Director

SUBJECT: **JUNE 24, 2008 AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
PROGRAM - STATUS REPORT**

On June 24, 2008, your Board approved contracts and funding for three years as a result of a Request for Proposal for the CalWORKs and General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) Domestic Violence (DV) programs. At the time, the funding was distributed among Supervisorial Districts based on the CalWORKs and GROW caseload distribution. While this methodology increased funding in some districts, it reduced funding in others, particularly in the Fourth District. Therefore, your Board asked the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to work with Community and Senior Services (CSS) and Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to review DV program data and develop recommendations for a more equitable funding distribution methodology. The Domestic Violence Council will also be included in this discussion.

In preparation for developing other options, DPSS is currently finalizing data that will reflect the number of DV participants: 1) residing in each District, and 2) being served by each District's providers. CSS is also gathering DV expenditure data for the first half of Fiscal Year 2008-2009. All of this information should be available by the end of January 2009. At that time, CEO, CSS, DPSS and Domestic Violence Council staff will be able to develop alternative options for distributing the funding.

By February 27, 2009, CSS will return to your Board with the program and expenditure data and share the recommendations developed as to the distribution of funding. If you have any questions, please let me know.

CDB:mq

c: Chief Executive Officer
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
DPSS Director
Domestic Violence Council



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May 5, 2009

To: Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Cynthia D. Banks, Director 

Subject: **JUNE 24, 2008 AGENDA ITEM NO. 13: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM**

This is to follow up on my December 24, 2008, memorandum providing a status on our efforts to explore alternative funding distribution methodologies for the Domestic Violence Program.

As background, in June 2008, your Board approved contracts and funding for three years as a result of a Request for Proposal for the CalWORKs and General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) Domestic Violence (DV) programs. The funding for the programs was distributed among Supervisorial Districts based on the CalWORKs and GROW caseload distribution. While this methodology increased funding in some districts, it reduced funding in others. Therefore, your Board asked the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to work with Community and Senior Services (CSS), the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), and the Domestic Violence Council in reviewing DV program and expenditure data and develop recommendations for a more equitable funding distribution methodology.

In January 2009, CSS, DPSS and Domestic Violence Council staff reviewed various relevant CalWORKs DV program and expenditure data but did not conclusively identify any one funding distribution methodology that was more equitable than another. Specifically, we looked at: 1) the number/percentage of DV participants residing in each district; 2) the number/percentage of DV participants who accessed services in each district; 3) the number/percentage of each district's DV participants who accessed services in their own district of residence; and 4) for comparison, the number/percentage of CalWORKs participants (i.e., the current funding distribution methodology).

Regardless of the methodology chosen, distributing the funding by supervisorial district will increase funding in some districts but reduce it in others. No one methodology is more equitable than another. Therefore, as an alternative, DPSS suggested reviewing the data by Service Planning Area (SPA) and agreed to gather the data from that perspective. That analysis is underway.

With respect to expenditures, as of February 2009, providers are utilizing their funding. As in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08, all providers are expected to fully utilize their FY 2008-09 allocations. Therefore, while the amount spent in each district may fluctuate (based on the number of providers and participants accessing services in each district), there are no unexpended funds in any district that should be reallocated to other districts/providers. Therefore, expenditures by district were ruled out as a possible distribution methodology.

In the meantime, to achieve efficiencies, the CEO is recommending to your Board as part of the FY 2009-10 Proposed Budget, to transfer all DV programs from CSS to DPSS. With this transfer, some administrative costs will be transferred from the CalWORKs Single Allocation to other DPSS programs, and some of the resulting CalWORKs Single Allocation savings may be available to supplement direct services.

Given this, no change in DV program funding is anticipated before the next Request for Proposal (RFP) that is targeted for 2011. Therefore, unless the SPA data reveals another possible interim option, there is no plan to change the funding distribution methodology at this time.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

CDB:mq

c: Chief Executive Officer
Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
DPSS Director
Domestic Violence Council